

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-24 (Cancelled)

Claims 24-34 (Withdrawn)

Claim 35. (Currently amended) A method for the manufacture of a round of ammunition suitable to produce subsonic flight of a projectile to a target from a weapon fired in the semi-automatic or automatic mode and having a closed gas system for operation of the bolt of the weapon comprising the steps of

introducing into a cartridge case suitable for receipt in the firing chamber of the weapon and having a closed end and an open end and for firing a projectile from the weapon, a quantity of ~~slow burning~~ gun powder to partially fill said case,

disposing in said open end of said case, a projectile having an overall weight in excess of the overall weight of a comparable sized lead projectile,

said projectile closing said open end of said case and extending into said case a distance of at least about one-third of the length of said case, and with at least a portion of said projectile projecting beyond said closed end of said case,

said combination of weight of said projectile and said quantity of gun powder producing gas pressure within the closed gas system of the weapon to consistently operate the bolt of the weapon and to propel said projectile from the weapon at less than sonic speed.

Claim 36. (Original) The method of Claim 35 wherein the overall length of the cartridge permits the feeding of multiple ones of the cartridges, one at a time, from a magazine and into the firing chamber of the weapon.

Claim 37. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 35 and including the step of forming said projectile from a metal jacket having an open end and an internal volume, and a core comprising ~~a plurality of discrete compacts~~ at least one discrete compact disposed within said jacket, ~~each of~~ said compact being formed from a mixture of a heavy metal powder and a light metal powder to form a compact which is of generally straight cylindrical geometry having first and second ends and a cylindrical body portion intermediate said ends, ~~each of~~ said compacts having a density greater than the density of lead, a length which is less than the full desired length of said compact core, ~~the combined lengths of said plurality of compacts~~ incompletely filling said jacket and leaving a portion of said jacket adjacent said open end thereof void of said compacts, and thereafter infolding said portion of said jacket which is void of said compacts to at least substantially close said open end of said jacket, said infolding causing at least a portion of ~~that~~ said compact adjacent said open end of said jacket to at least partially fill said infolded portion of said jacket.

Claim 38. (Currently amended) The method of Claim ~~35~~ 37 and prior to infolding of said open end portion of said jacket, including the step of interposing within said jacket a separator disc in abutting relationship to that end of said compact which is proximate said open end of said jacket.

Claim 39. (Currently amended) A cartridge suitable to produce subsonic flight of the projectile to a target from a weapon fired in the semi-automatic or automatic mode and having a closed gas system for operation of the bolt of the weapon comprising

a cartridge case having a closed end and an open end and suitable for firing a projectile from the weapon, a quantity of ~~slow burning~~ gun powder partially filling said case,

a projectile having an overall weight substantially in excess of the overall weight of a comparable sized lead projectile disposed in said open end of said case, said projectile closing said open end of said case and extending into said case a distance of at least about 35%, and preferably about 42%, of the length of said case, ~~but terminating short of said gun powder present in said case and~~ with at least a portion of said projectile projecting beyond said closed end of said case, said combination of weight of said projectile and said quantity of gun powder being sufficient to produce sufficient gas pressure within the closed gas system of the weapon to consistently operate the bolt of the weapon and propel said projectile from the weapon at less than sonic speed, said cartridge and projectile having an overall length which permits the feeding of multiple ones of the cartridges, one at a time, from a magazine and into the firing chamber of the weapon.

Claim 40. (Currently amended) The round of ammunition of Claim 39 wherein ~~each of~~ said compacts is formed with a maximum outer diameter that is less than the minimum internal diameter of said jacket and ~~each of~~ said compacts is pressed into said jacket by an axially applied pressure which is sufficient to ensure that deformation of said compact which causes said compact to substantially fill that portion of the volume of said jacket which is adjacent said compact.

Claim 41 (New) The round of ammunition of Claim 35 wherein said projectile is formed of a metal jacket having a closed end, an open end and an internal volume, and a core comprising a discrete compact disposed within said jacket, said compact being formed from a mixture of a heavy metal powder and a light metal powder to form a self-supporting compact which is of generally straight cylindrical geometry having first and second ends and a cylindrical body portion intermediate said ends, said compact having a density greater than the density of lead and a length which is less than the full length of said jacket and leaving a

portion of said jacket adjacent said open end thereof void of said compact, and thereafter infolding said portion of said jacket which is void of said compact to at least substantially close said open end of said jacket, said infolding causing at least a portion of said compact proximate said open end of said jacket to at least partially fill said infolded portion of said jacket, and a separator disc interposed within said jacket in abutting relationship to that end of said compact which is proximate said open end of said jacket.